

STATE SENATOR • IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN • 3RD DISTRICT

Clark-Coleman Press Release

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SEN. CLARK-COLEMAN ANNOUNCES JOB TRAINING GRANT FOR FORD MOTOR CO.

(LANSING) – State Senator Irma Clark-Coleman (D-Detroit) announced today that the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) has awarded a \$1.3 million job training grant to Dearborn-based Ford Motor Co. to retrain a portion of its workforce at Henry Ford Community College. More than 1,000 employees will be eligible to participate in the skills enhancement program.

“I am elated to see that the state is reacting to the rapidly changing job market and is providing citizens with additional job training to solidify their futures,” Sen. Clark-Coleman said. “What’s more is that Henry Ford Community College has demonstrated its ability to provide excellent job training programs by connecting with students from every walk of life,” she added.

The state legislature appropriated \$10 million to the MEDC in Fiscal Year 2004 to administer its job training program, referred to as Economic Development Job Training (EDJT). The legislation gave priority in awarding such grants – partially based on demonstrated need – to train, create or retain high-wage, high-skilled jobs.

State law requires that 75 percent of the program funds be awarded to a community college or a consortium of community colleges. No funds will be given directly to businesses. Under the program, employers must provide a 30 percent match for training workers.

State Sen. Irma Clark-Coleman represents the 3rd Senate District. She sits on the Banking & Financial Institutions, Education, Families & Human Services, and Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs committees.